

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 EB-07

COME-00 TRSE-00 /059 W

----- 005309

R 070558Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6151

INEX RUQMBI/AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI 2765

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 4246

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR(37(7, LE

SUBJ: FIRST PALESTINIAN REACTIONS TO EVENTS IN KUWAIT

REF: KUWAIT 4198

1. AS FAR AS WE ARE AWARE, THE PLO AND ITS LEADERS HAVE BEEN SILENT ON RECENT POLITICAL SHAKEUP IN KUWAIT, ALTHOUGH PRESS COMMENTARY OUTSIDE KUWAIT HAS LINKED KUWAITI CONCERN OVER PALESTINIANS WITH AMIR'S DISSOLUTION OF PARLIMENT AND MUZZLING OF LOCAL PRESS. THERE ARE INDICATIONS, HOWEVER, THAT PFLP (WHICH IS NOT ALLOWED TO OPERATE OFFICIALLY HERE) BELIEVES THAT GOK DETERMINATION TO "BATTEN DOWN THE HATCHES" BODES ILL FOR CONTINUED KUWAITI TOLERANCE OF PFLP ACTIVITIES. THE PFLP MAY WELL BE RIGHT; OTHER REPORTING INDICATES THAT, IN THE COURSE OF SHUTTING DOWN KUWAITI LEFTIST MAGAZINE AL TALE'A ON SEPT 1 (REFTEL), KUWAITI POLICE TOOK UNUSUAL STEP OF SEARCHING OFFICES

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OF MAGAZINE SHRVI KNOWN PFLP MEMBERS AND

SUPPORTERS.

2. ALSO, KUWAITI PRESS (AL SIYASAH, SEPT 2) REPORTED THAT, ON THE SAME DAY THIS SEARCH WAS CONDUCTED, THE "REJECTIONIST UBNT" IN LEBANON ISSUED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT: "RECENT POLITICAL EVENTS IN KUWAIT ARE AIMED AT PLOTTING OTHER INTRIGUES AGAINST THE REVOLUTION. THE ARAB MASSES KNOW THAT THE PURPOSE BEHIND THESE CHANGES IS TO PLAN MORE INTRIGUES AGAINST THE PALESTINIAN REVOLUTION, THE LEBANESE NATIONALIST MOVEMENT AND ALL THE NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC FORCES IN KUWAIT. THESE CHANGES ARE PART OF " REACTIONARY

ONIST, IMPERIALIST PLAN THAT SEEKS TO IMPOSE ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CONTROL OVER THE AREA".

3. THE KUWAITI PRESS ARTICLE WHICH QUOTED THE ABOVE STATEMENT REPEATEDLY EMPHASIZED THAT THE STATEMENT "CONTRADICTED", AND

SHOWED MISUNDERSTANDING OF, OFFICIAL EXPLANATIONS BY AMIR AND CROWN PRINCE OF GOK DECREES OF LAST WEEK. ARTICLE ALSO CARRIED WHAT APPEARS TO BE A GRATUITOUS SLAP AT JUMBLATT WHEN IT POINTED OUT THAT THE "REJECTIONIST FRONT" IN LEBANON, WHICH ISSUED THE STATEMENT, IS ONE OF THE ELEMENTS WHICH SUPPORT JUMBLATT.

4 COMMENT: WE ARE UNABLE TO DETERMINE WHETHER PALESTINIANS IN LEBANON WHO ISSUED ABOVE QUOTED STATEMENT WERE THEN AWARE OF KUWAITI POLICE ROLE ON MAGAZINE OFFICES THAT SAME DAY. MAESTRONE

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## Message Attributes

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**Draft Date:** 07 SEP 1976  
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